

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCA-01

DPW-01 IO-10 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /069 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9604

INFOR AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2787

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS KN

SUBJECT: SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE REPORTED SHIFT OF ROK OFFICIALS

1. ACCORDING TO YI YONG-HO OF ROK NATIONAL UNIFICATION BOARD, KCIA HAS REASSIGNED CONSULTATIVE COORDINATION BUREAU (CCB) CHIEF CHONG HONG-CHIN TO HEAD SEVENTH (NORTHEAST ASIA) BUREAU. YI SAID THT NEW HEAD OF CCB, WHICH WAS IMPORTANT KCIA RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE, IS KIM TAL-SUL, WHO HAS BEEN SERVING AS ROK DELEGATE TO SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS TALKS.

2. COMMENT: KIM IS CONSIDERABLY JUNIOR TO CHONG AND HIS ASSIGNMENT TO CCB, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED BY ROKG, COULD INDICATE FURTHER DOWNGRADING OF IMPORTANCE ROKG ATTACHES TO SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE. HOWEVER, KIM'S REMOVAL FROM RED CROSS TALKS HAD ALSO LONG BEEN OBJECT OF NORTH KOREAN DEMAND THAT ROK DELEGATION NOT CONTAIN ANY MEMBERS OF KCIA, AND IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF HE IS REPLACED ON DELEGATION BY A KCIA COLLEAGUE. CV NOT, ROK WILL HAVE MET ONE OF NORTH KOREAN CRITERIA FOR FORMALIZATION OF RED CROSS TALKS, ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE ONLY AN INCIDENTAL RESULT OF

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CHONG'S TRANSFER AND KIM'S SELECTION TO REPLACE HIM.

SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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